

Application No. 10/760,412  
Amendment dated April 3, 2006  
Response to Office Action of January 10, 2006

**REMARKS**

**Reconsideration And Allowance  
Are Respectfully Requested.**

Claims 18-21 and 23-33 are currently pending. Claims 1-17 and 22 were previously canceled by way of prior amendments. Claim 20 has been canceled by way of the present amendment. Claim 18 is currently pending. New claims 27-33 have been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 18, 21, 23 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0083676 to VanderSchuit. Claims 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over VanderSchuit. Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over VanderSchuit in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,637,244 to Erokhin. Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over VanderSchuit in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/021190 to Novak et al. and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0202362 to Liou. These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the preceding amendments and the remarks which follow.

As amended, independent claim 18 now defines a grip shaped and dimensioned for attachment to a golf club. The grip includes a transparent polymeric body including a first end and a second end. The first end is closed and the second end is open for attachment to a shaft of a golf club. The transparent polymeric body has an inner surface and an outer surface. The inner surface defines a cavity shaped and dimensioned for receiving the shaft of a golf club. A design is formed within the polymeric body between the inner surface and the outer surface of the body. A light source is coupled to the first end of the polymeric body for directing light within the polymeric body

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from the first end of the polymeric body to the second end of the polymeric body and onto the design.

In contrast to the claimed invention, VanderSchuit discloses a lighted item and lists a variety of items utilizing the concepts of the disclosed invention. VanderSchuit lists a lighted frozen confection, a lighted lollipop, a lighted snow cone cup, a lighted cotton candy holder, a lighted candy ring pop, a lighted pacifier, a lighted receptacle, a lighted label, a lighted key holder, a lighted coaster and placemat combination and lighted tableware. It is, however, notable that VanderSchuit does not disclose utilization of his invention with a grip for a golf club.

The Office Action attempts to remedy this deficiency by citing Novak and Liou, wherein Novak discloses a grip for a golf club and Liou discloses the use of light emitting golf balls. The proposed rejection combines unique and diverse articles. As such, one would not even remotely consider looking at the variety of the devices cited by the Examiner in modifying any of the other articles presented by the Examiner in the rejection. Given the diversity of the articles, the only reason one can ascertain as to why the Examiner has chosen to combine these rejections, that is, the only suggestion for combining these diverse prior art articles, is based upon the teachings of Applicant himself; thus rely upon impermissible hindsight.

As such, it is Applicant's opinion amended claim 18 overcomes the prior art of record and Applicant respectfully requests all rejections relating thereto be withdrawn.

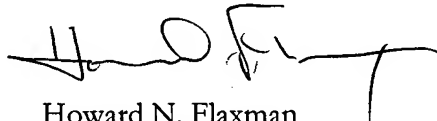
As to those claims dependent upon independent claim 18, these claims are also believed to overcome the prior art of record for the reasons presented above with regard to independent claim 18 and Applicant respectfully requests these rejections be withdrawn.

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In addition, new claims 27-33 have been added. These new claims specifically set forth a golf club having a grip as specified above. As such, and as with the reasons presented above with regard to independent claim 18, this claim is also believed to be allowable over the prior art.

It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and early issuance is respectfully requested. If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact Applicant's representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Howard N. Flaxman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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